

United States Embassy Macedonia

Presents Newsletter *C O L L A G E*



Global articles for your interest
Issue 19
December 1 - December 16, 2009

Contents:

1. [Obama Accepts Nobel Prize with Call for Faith in Human Progress](#)

President Obama says he is accepting the Nobel Prize for Peace even though his accomplishments “are slight” and he is sending soldiers into war, and says world leaders must face the challenge of reconciling that war is sometimes necessary but can also be seen as “an expression of human folly.” ...

2. [Clinton Lays Out Obama Administration Agenda on Human Rights](#)

Supporting democracy and fostering economic development are the cornerstones of the Obama administration’s agenda for promoting human rights, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton says in a speech outlining President Obama’s goal to “free people from the oppression of want.” ...

3. [Europe’s Lisbon Treaty Welcomed by the United States](#)

The United States welcomes the Lisbon Treaty, which came into effect December 1, as an important milestone for Europe and for its role in the world, Assistant Secretary of State Philip Gordon tells a U.S. Senate subcommittee. ...

4. [Obama Calls Climate Change Accord an Important Milestone](#)

President Obama said he worked closely with major world leaders at the U.N. Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen during marathon negotiating sessions to reach “an important milestone” to confront the threat posed by unchecked global warming. ...

5. [World Needs Political Will to Combat Climate Change](#)

U.S. Commerce Secretary Gary Locke tells the U.N. Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen that the world has simultaneous environmental and economic deliverance within its grasp, but only if it can find the political will to act. ...

6. [Public Diplomacy Web Contest Open to International, US Students](#)

For the eighth year in a row, the Doors to Diplomacy contest invites international and U.S. students to promote positive online global relations. The deadline is March 23, 2010. For the contest, teams of students and adult coaches create Web projects examining international issues and diplomacy. ...

In case you missed it:

U.S. Embassy Macedonia [Facebook](#) page



U.S. Embassy Macedonia [Youtube channel](#) 




Rear Admiral William Brown presents medals to Macedonian soldiers who took part in Operation Iraqi Freedom. (LP)

Recognizing the Achievements of the Macedonian Military

December 14, 2009

On December 14, Rear Admiral William Brown and Deputy Chief of Mission Tom Navratil participated in a medal ceremony for soldiers from Macedonia who served in the multinational mission in Iraq. The Minister of Defense and the Chief of Defense also attended and assisted in the presentation of the medals. The Admiral thanked both the soldiers and their families for their support of this important mission while recognizing Macedonia's contributions to peacekeeping efforts throughout the world.

- ◆ **To see a slide show from the medal ceremony, please visit our Embassy  video channel.**
- ◆ **View the local coverage of this event on [(MTV1 in Macedonian, WMV file, size 4.03 BM) & (MTV 2 in Albanian, WMV file, size 2.9 MB)].**
- ◆ **To see a short video story about this event from the American Forces Network Europe (AFN-E) channel, please [click here](#).**



Admiral Brown, Deputy Chief of Mission Navratil, Mayor Trajkovski and Minister Todorov cut the ribbon at Kiril and Methodius School. (LP)

Renovating Schools for Macedonia's Children

December 14, 2009

On Monday, December 14th 2009, Rear Admiral William Brown and Deputy Chief of Mission Tom Navratil joined Mayor Trajkovski of Gazi Baba and Minister of Education Nikola Todorov for a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the "Kiril and Methodius" primary school in Stajkovci. The U.S. Embassy Office of Defense Cooperation (ODC) and USAID Primary Education Project (PEP) worked with the municipality to renovate the school with the installation of a new central

heating system. This is one of eight primary schools renovated over the last two years with this partnership. By 2011, USAID will renovate over 120 schools, nearly one-third of the primary schools in Macedonia, to create a better learning environment for the children of Macedonia.

- ◆ **To see more photos from the event, please [click here](#).**
- ◆ **To see a short video story about this event from the American Forces Network Europe (AFN-E) channel, please [click here](#).**



Children attending the Finding Nemo join PAO Ryan Rowlands for the beginning of the festival. (LP)

U.S. Embassy Sponsors Free Saturday Matinee Film Festival for Children through March

December 12, 2009

On Saturday, December 12, the U.S. Embassy opened the "Novo Kino Utro" children's film series at Cinematheque. The Embassy is partnering with the NGO Nase Maalo and the Ministry of Culture to bring two American movies to younger audiences on Saturdays through March. Public Affairs Officer Ryan Rowlands introduced the series to an enthusiastic full house at Cinematheque. The Festival shows American films and entrance is free – reservations are recommended. The Festival began with Finding Nemo and Free Willy with the theme of "Life in the Sea." The event included an appearance by a professional diver who discussed protection of the seas, oceans and marine life.

♦ **A full program for the Festival can be found here:** [Click here.](#)

♦ **To see more photos from the event, please** [click here.](#)



[Ambassador Philip T. Reeker Statement for Tree Day Foundation](#)

December 11, 2009

In a short statement for the Tree Day Foundation environmental documentary, Ambassador Reeker notes that to meet the challenge of global climate change we all have to work together. The Ambassador commends the efforts made by Day of the Tree Foundation here in Macedonia under the leadership of Boris Trajanov.

♦ **To see Ambassador's statement** [click here.](#)



Cultural Attaché John Surface is welcomed to the NCC's 60th Anniversary Reception by NCC Director Bexhihudin Shehapi. (LP)

National Conservation Center Honors U.S. Embassy for Contributions to Cultural Heritage in Macedonia

December 10, 2009

The National Conservation Center of the Republic of Macedonia celebrated its 60th Anniversary in a reception at the Hotel Continental in Skopje on December 10. Director Bexhihudin Shehapi honored the NCC's founders and partners for their contributions to the work of the NCC over the last six decades. Cultural Attaché John Surface accepted an award for the U.S. Embassy's contributions to Macedonia's rich cultural heritage, highlighting the role of the Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation in restoration work at the Peribleptos Church in Ohrid and the Daut Pasha Hamam in Skopje.



16 Days Against Gender-Based Violence Campaign

Op-Ed Piece by U.S. Ambassador Philip T. Reeker

December 9, 2009

Amb. [Philip T. Reeker](#)

In support of the global campaign **16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence**, Ambassador Reeker wrote an op-ed for Macedonian weekly *Tea Moderna*. In the column, the Ambassador outlines the efforts of the U.S. government to combat violence against women, stressing the importance of addressing this international problem that requires an international solution. "Violence based on gender difference is not just a female issue, it is a global challenge to human rights and security in general," noted Ambassador Reeker.

◇ To read the text of the column, please [click here](#).



A collection of images including a map of North America, the United States capitol building, a group of Korean students in front of the Chicago skyline, and a single Korean student gazing at engravings on the Lincoln memorial.

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: STUDY OF THE UNITED STATES INSTITUTES, FY-2010

Institute Description: *Study of the United States*

Institutes (SUSI) are intensive post-graduate level academic programs with integrated study tours whose purpose is to provide foreign university faculty and other scholars with the opportunity to deepen their understanding of American society, culture and institutions. These Institutes host multinational groups of university faculty or secondary school educators. Each Institute is thematically focused on a field or topic of U.S. studies. Participants interact with American

scholars, meet with experts in their disciplines, visit civic institutions, and explore the diversity and culture of the United States. ...[more](#).

Application deadline: January 31, 2010.

For All Embassy News go to: <http://macedonia.usembassy.gov>

Small Grants information: http://macedonia.usembassy.gov/small_grants_program.html

American Educational Exchange information: <http://macedonia.usembassy.gov/aec.html>

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